

Atty. Docket No. ACR0037-US
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Support for the Amendments

Support for the above amendments can be found in the claims as originally filed. More specifically, support for the amendments to claim 15 can be found in claims 15-16 as originally filed, and support for the amendment to claim 16 can be found in claims 2 and 9 as originally filed. Claim 15 has been rewritten to include all of the limitations of allowable claim 16 as originally presented and as indicated as being allowable on June 21, 2004. Thus, no new matter or new issues are introduced by the present Amendment.

Remarks

Applicants and their representatives thank Examiner Hindi for the allowance of claims 1-14 and the indication of allowability for claims 16-18.

The present invention relates to a multimode filter in an optical storage device for filtering an error signal and extracting a frequency signal, an optical storage device having such a multimode filter, and a multimode filtering method for filtering an error signal. The multimode filter comprises a CLV mode filter for filtering the error signal and extracting a narrow bandwidth signal; a CAV mode filter for filtering the error signal and extracting a wide bandwidth signal; and a switch for selection of the filter between CLV and CAV mode filter. The multimode filtering method comprises inputting an error signal to a multimode filter comprising a CLV and CAV mode filter; setting a frequency domain of the multimode filter in accordance with a recording mode of the optical storage device; and filtering the error signal and extracting a frequency signal.

Rejected independent claim 15 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 16. Claim 16 has been amended to recite limitations found in claims 2 and 9 as originally filed. Consequently, the present claims are patentable over the cited references.

The amendments to claims 2, 6, 7, 9-14, 17, 19 and 20 are to form only, and are intended merely to conform the claims to each other and to well-known requirements and conventions of U.S. patent practice. For example, the preamble of claims 9-14 has been amended to conform

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with claim 8, from which claims 9-14 depend. Similarly, the preamble of claim 20 has been formally amended to conform with claim 15, from which it depends. (Applicants' representative notes that the preamble of claim 20 as presented in the Amendment dated September 21, 2004 does not match the preamble of claim 20 as originally filed. The present amendment is intended, in part, to correct that oversight.) The term "comprising" has been changed to --comprises-- in claims 2 and 9, to correct a grammatical error. The word --and-- has been inserted into the Markush groups of claims 7, 14 and 20, consistent with U.S. practice (see, e.g., M.P.E.P. 2173.05(h)). Finally, the term "is" has been changed to --comprises-- in claims 13 and 19, to conform with U.S. practice regarding transitional claim terminology (see, e.g., M.P.E.P. 2111.03).

Thus, the present amendment introduces no new matter or new issues.

The Rejection of Claims 15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The rejection of Claims 15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Applicant's background Fig. 2 has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

While Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's basis for this rejection, to expedite prosecution of the present application, the claims have been amended to include only allowed, allowable and previously considered subject matter. Therefore, this ground of rejection is unsustainable, and should be withdrawn.

Conclusions

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all grounds for rejection are overcome, and the application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

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If it is deemed helpful or beneficial to the efficient prosecution of the present application,
the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,



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